

## The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum Celebrates One Year Anniversary

(Miami, FL – Dec 10, 2009) – Amid Art Basel fervor The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum celebrated its one-year anniversary of its new building with the opening of The Dahlia Morgan Members Lounge. Guests to the opening event included Patricia Frost, for whom The Museum is named; Dahlia Morgan, director emeritus; Dr. Carol Damian, current director and chief curator and other founding members.

“It is difficult to believe that it has only been a year since The Museum opened its doors,” said Carol Damian, director and chief curator to guests while standing in the newly opened and completed members lounge. “It is incredible the number of people that have come through the doors as well as the great exhibitions we have featured this past year.”

Since opening the new 46,000 square foot building during Art Basel Miami Beach last year, over 29,000 people have visited The Museum and enjoyed world-class exhibitions. Visitors to The new Frost Art Museum were the first to view *Modern Masters*, one of the inaugural exhibitions and a Smithsonian Institution traveling show that launched its tour at The Frost Art Museum. The spring brought in an eclectic mix of art with *Because I Say So, Selections from The Scholl Collection*, where everything from a gold foil CNN chain to posters to a cube of over one million pins are considered art. The spring also brought the annual BFA show, *Wake*, where FIU art students presented their final projects including a small free standing house on the lake. Art filled The Museum both inside and out.

The world-class programming and exhibitions continue at The Frost Art Museum. Its official Art Basel closing event, Breakfast in the Park, draws hundreds of visitors each year, many of whom travel by bus from the Miami Beach Convention Center. Currently on view is *The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama*, curated by Randy Rosenberg of Art Works for Change. The artists were asked to create works in honor of the Dalai Lama and as a result a collection of tapestries, photographs and paintings were created with images, themes and media that mirrors the many roles the Dalai Lama plays around the world. The artists not only pay tribute to the Dalai Lama himself, but also discover and explore other multiple features about the leader and message. The exhibition includes work by Chuck Close, Laurie Anderson, Bill Viola, Jenny Holzer, Anish Kapoor, Richard Gere, Marina Abramovic, and Michele Oka Doner, among others. The Missing Peace is funded in part by Funding Arts Network and The Charles Wei-Hsun Fu Foundation.

*En Vista*, a new exhibition by the husband and wife team of photographers Eduardo del Valle & Mirta Gómez takes us on a rare and astonishing journey into the transformation of the human body after death. *En Vista* offers a strikingly beautiful and memorable selection of 17 chromogenic photographs, printed by the artists from original negatives. Continuing the journey into the human condition is celebrated Indian artist Navjot Altaf who uses photography and videos in her installation *I a c u n a i n t e s t i m o n y* in an attempt to listen to the testimonies of those affected in communal riots in India’s Gujarat State in 2002. Her video raises questions about whether one can enumerate and describe often opaque and confounding events and how events in India are relevant to violence and oppression throughout the world.

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So what is next for The Frost Art Museum?

“We have now completed three series of installations in our 9 beautiful spaces and each time it has been different,” said Damian. “Certainly the present exhibition, *The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama*, has been an opportunity to bring it all together under a theme of peace and compassion, a fitting end to the first year and a challenge for the years to come.”

**About The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University**

The Frost Art Museum opened its current 46,000-square-foot state of the art building in November, 2008. Over **29,000** people have visited The Museum in its new building since its opening in November, 2008. Admission to The Museum is always free. The Frost is an AAM accredited museum and Smithsonian affiliate and is located at 10975 SW 17<sup>th</sup> St across from the Blue garage and adjacent to the Wertheim Performing Arts Center on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday noon-5 p.m. Closed on Mondays and most legal holidays. For more information, please visit [thefrost.fiu.edu](http://thefrost.fiu.edu) or call 305-348-2890. Find The Frost Art Museum on Twitter ([twitter.com/frostartmuseum](https://twitter.com/frostartmuseum)) and Facebook ([facebook.com](https://facebook.com))

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